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SARATOGA COUNTY CLERK KATHY MARCHIONE ANNOUNCES REPEAL OF PLAN TO REQUIRE NEW STATE LICENSE PLATES

"This is wonderful news and a major victory for all motorists across New York State," said an elated Saratoga County Clerk Kathy Marchione

HALFMOON, NY – Saratoga County Clerk Kathy A. Marchione (R,I,C-Halfmoon), tonight proclaimed "a victory for motorists" in getting the state to drop its plan to mandate the purchase of new license plates. Marchione and her fellow County Clerks have opposed the plan that would have cost motorists \$25 per vehicle for new plates, and \$45 per vehicle if a driver had elected to keep their current plate.

"Since it was first announced several months ago, we have been working to stop this plan that would have mandated motorists to purchase new state license plates from going into effect. Now, it looks like the state is finally backing off this burdensome mandate that was supposed to take effect in April of next year," said Marchione, who has served as Saratoga County Clerk since 1997.

"True credit goes to the thousands of New Yorkers who didn't just get mad, but signed our on-line petitions to stop this truly bad idea. Fueled by motorists' tireless advocacy, my fellow County Clerks and I were able to take the people's concerns directly to Governor Paterson and policymakers in Albany," Marchione stated.

The on-line grassroots petition against the new license plate requirement for Saratoga County residents is located at www.nonewlicenseplates.com.

"I believe that this misguided policy was repealed in large part to my fellow Clerks and I planning on presenting grassroots petitions with over 100,000 signatures to the Governor and Legislature tomorrow. The overwhelming support for our petitions was proof positive that New Yorkers from all political affiliations rejected what was really nothing more than an ill-conceived 'cash grab' by state government," Marchione said.

"I especially want to thank Patricia Ritchie, St. Lawrence County Clerk and current President of New York State Association of County Clerks, who has been a terrific leader in this effort, along with everyone who signed our petition and made their voices heard. Tonight's victory belongs to them," Marchione concluded.